

The Indian territory within the limits of this State is about forty miles in length, with an average width of probably twenty-five to thirty miles, and is supposed to contain about seven hundred thousand acres, of this number, two hundred and fifteen thousand one hundred and eighty six and three quarter acres have been surveyed, leaving about four hundred and eighty-four thousand eight hundred and fourteen acres unsurveyed. This latter consists, generally, of mountainous, hilly and broken lands, for the most part unfit for cultivation, but valuable for timber, range for stock, and probably in some places for the minerals which they are supposed to contain.

The Commissioners of survey were directed by the act of Assembly to have surveyed all lands which in their estimation would command the sum of twenty cents per acre, and from calculations drawn from the field books, returned by the surveyors, it appears that the whole number of tracts surveyed is thirteen hundred and ninety-three. These embrace three thousand three hundred and ninety-five acres, of the first quality, rated by the act of Assembly at four dollars per acre—nine thousand seven hundred and sixty-one acres of the second quality, rated at two dollars per acre—twelve thousand and seventy-four acres of the third quality, rated at one dollar—thirty-one thousand eight hundred and sixty three acres of the fourth quality, rated at fifty cents, and one hundred and fifty-eight thousand ninety-three and three quarter acres of the fifth quality, rated at twenty cents per acre. Estimating therefore, the whole number of acres surveyed at the State price, it amounts to the sum of ninety-two thousand, seven hundred and twenty-six dollars and twenty-five cents.

Of the number of tracts surveyed, there were sold twelve hundred and two, containing one hundred and eighty-four thousand seven hundred and thirty-eight acres, which estimated at the State price, amounts to the sum of eighty-six thousand and thirty-one dollars and forty-five cents, and which sold for the sum of three hundred and twenty-eight thousand, six hundred and ninety-three dollars and seventy-six cents. Showing a difference between the amount estimated at the State price and that for which the land sold, of two hundred and forty-two thousand six hundred and sixty-two dollars and thirty-one cents. To descend more particularly into detail it will be found that the State price of the lands sold, averages a fraction over forty-six and a half cents per acre, and that the average price of the sale is a fraction over one dollar and seventy-seven and three quarter cents per acre, being an advance upon the State price of nearly four hundred per cent.

There were also surveyed twenty-four town lots of half an acre each at the site selected as the seat of Justice for the contemplated county to be erected out of the Cherokee territory. Eight of these lots were di-